Amateur Computer Scroup of New Jersey NEWS

Volume 38, Number 05 May 2013

Cartoon by Greg West



"Marvin, don't tell me. Your batteries are all dead again."



ACGNJ Meetings

For the very latest news on ACGNJ meetings, please visit the ACGNJ Website (www.acgnj.org).

Board of Directors Meeting: Tues, Apr 30, 7 PM Mike Redlich (president (at) acgnj.org)

Main Meeting: Friday, May 3. 8:00 PM Mike Redlich (president (at) acgnj.org)

Lunics (Linux/UNIX): Monday, May 6, 8:00 PM Andreas Meyer (lunics (at) acgnj.org)

Investing: Thursday, May 9, 8:00 PM Jim Cooper (jim (at) thecoopers.org).

NJ Gamers: Friday, May 10, **6**:00 PM Gregg McCarthy (greggmajestic (at) gmail.com)

Layman's Forum: Monday, May 13, 8:00 PM Matt Skoda (som359 (at) aol.com)

Java: Tuesday, May 14, 7:30 PM Mike Redlich (mike (at) redlich.net)

Window Pains: Friday, May 17, 8:00 PM John Raff (john (at) jraff.com)

Web Browser: Monday, May 20, 7:30 PM David McRitchie (firefox (at) acgnj.org)

C/C++: Tuesday, May 21, 7:30 PM Bruce Arnold (barnold (at) ieee.org)

Board of Directors Meeting: Tues, Jun 4, 7:00 PM Mike Redlich (president (at) acgnj.org)

All meetings, unless otherwise noted, are at the Scotch Plains Rescue Squad, 1916 Bartle Ave, Scotch Plains, New Jersey. Directions and map on back page.

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Tips for reviewers: Why does anyone need it? Why did you like it or hate it? Ease (or difficulty) of installation, learning and use. Would you pay for it?

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Typographic Note: This ACGNJ News was produced using Scribus 1.3.3.13. Font families used are Times New Roman (TT) for body text, Arial (TT) for headlines.

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Niece of "Why So Big?"

Bob Hawes, ACGNJ

At the end of *Daughter of "Why So Big?"* (in our February 2013 issue), I said; "I also had plans to enter new territory by *re*-constructing the December 2012 newsletter; but only after converting *all* of its images into JPG files. This, too, will have to wait until another day". Well, today's the day. Of the 27 images in our December 2012 issue, 14 were GIF files (all copies of *one* single source file, TINY_PC2.gif), 5 were already JPG files (the cartoons by Greg West), and 8 were PNG files. So actually, I only had to use the GIMP (GNU Image Manipulation Program) to convert nine files into the JPG format. Also, since *Daughter of "Why So Big?"* started its deletions on page 1, I'll start our readditions on page 16, and then proceed backwards.

For your convenience, here are some recaps: **GIF** (**G**raphics **I**nterchange **F**ormat) files were introduced by CompuServe in the mid eighties. They're *compact*, and they use lossless data compression; but they support only 256 colors. Unfortunately, some transcendent genius at Scribus has decreed that you'll

get useless, intrusive and distracting "Image is GIF" error messages any time that you use them. **JPG** (or JPEG, for **J**oint **P**hotographic **E**xperts **G**roup) files were introduced by the ISO (International Standards **O**rganization), also in the mid eighties. They're *very* popular for digital photography, even though (or maybe *because*) they use lossy compression.

TIF (or TIFF, for Tagged Image File Format) files were introduced in the mid eighties as well, by the Aldus Corporation. Originally created for desktop scanners, they were quickly adopted by the publishing industry in general. They support lossless *or* lossy compression, as desired. PNG (Portable Network Graphics) files employ lossless data compression. Their specification was originally authored via e-mail in the mid *nineties*, by a group of computer graphics users who were dissatisfied with GIF files for various reasons.

Now for a few more reminders (also recapped from *Daughter of "Why So Big?"*). The copy of the December 2012 Scribus work file that we "de-

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constructed" was named 2012Dec0.sla. *After* all 27 of its images had been deleted, we got a final output PDF measuring 1,001.8 KB (roughly one MB). I actually stepped through that de-construction process *twice*. Once when booted from a Linux (Ubuntu 12.04) hard disk running Scribus 1.4.0, and once when booted from an XP SP2 hard disk running the Windows version of Scribus 1.4.1. I said that I'd report on the Linux/1.4.0 version, and only write up the XP/1.4.1 version when it *wasn't* close to identical. Happily, those two sequences paralleled each other so closely that I *never* had to mention that XP version again. This time, as I re-construct, I'm only going to use the Linux version.

After I opened that work file, though, the *first* thing I did was to correct a mistake I'd made. The "skeleton" work file that I used as the starting point for many of my 2012 newsletters was named Skel1206.sla. From its name, you can tell that it had last been modified in June of 2012. However, its footers *still* said "March 2012"; and when I produced that December issue, I *forgot* to change them. To fix

this, I had to update *three* of my "Master Pages": Even, Odd-3to9, and Odd-11to99. (There are also two others: Normal, which I use for page 1, *doesn't* have a footer; and Odd-101up, which I usually *don't* bother to update, because I haven't yet gotten anywhere even *close* to 101 pages).

(Please remember that all of the deletions recorded below were first reported in Daughter of "Why So Big?", while all of the additions recorded below were done right now, for this article). On page 16, when I deleted the 414 KB image named 1108page16-150.png, I got a 707.2 KB decrease in output PDF file size. Now, when I added the newly converted 461 KB image named 1108page16-150.ipg, I got a 452 KB increase in PDF size. On page 15, when I deleted the 308 KB image named 1108page15-150.png. I got a 480.7 KB decrease in PDF size. Now, when I added the newly converted 310 KB image named 1108page15-150.*ipg*, I got a 303 KB increase. At this point in the de-construction process, I had a 2.2 MB PDF file. Now, at this point in the re-construction process, I had a smaller 1.8

Niece of "Why So Big?" continued

MB PDF file. A reduction of 0.4 MB. So far, so good. On page 14, the image deleted from the bottom right hand corner was a copy of the 7.5 KB file TINY PC2.gif. (That's the teeny tiny computer picture that we use to mark the ends of various closing paragraphs). Deleting it had given me a 27.4 KB decrease in PDF size. Now, when I added newly converted 15.1 KB file TINY PC2.jpg, I got a 15.4 KB increase. A couple of inches above that, the 2.5 MB file NL CD 12.png had been deleted, resulting in a 512 KB decrease in PDF size. Now, when I added newly converted 260 KB file NL CD 12.jpg, I got a 254 KB increase. The other six images that I'd deleted from page 14 were all copies of TINY PC2.gif. Deleting them had given me a mere 2 byte decrease in PDF size, (I'll explain why in a minute). Now, I added six copies of TINY PC2.jpg to their respective places, and I only got an increase of 7 bytes.

Those minuscule differences are because I *hadn't* actually added any more images to my output PDF file. Instead, I'd just created six links to the first (and

only) copy of TINY_PC2.jpg that Scribus had copied into its output file. Furthermore, all six of the images that had been deleted from page 13 were also copies of TINY_PC2.gif. Deleting them had given me a 32 byte decrease in PDF size, Now, I added six more copies of TINY_PC2.jpg to those empty places, and I got a PDF increase of only 36 bytes. (Again, no files copied, six more links created). I can't explain the relatively huge difference between those last two increases (7 bytes for six files on page 14 versus 36 bytes for six files on page 13); but I really don't have to, because they parallel the corresponding deceases for those same two groups of files (2 and 32). Therefore, I can accept those figures without necessarily understanding them.

At this point in the *de*-construction process, I had a 2.8 MB PDF file. Now, at this point in the *re*-construction process, I've got a smaller 2.1 MB PDF file. Still so far, still so good. Moving on: Two images had been deleted from page 12: A 74.5 KB cartoon named m_santa in the islands.jpg; and *456.4* KB cartoon named mouse retired.jpg. Since they

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were *already* JPG files, I just re-added them again. The first file's deletion had resulted in a decrease of 74.8 KB. Now, its re-addition resulted in an increase of 74.8 KB. How consistent. The second file's deletion had resulted in a decrease of 456.6 KB. Now, its re-addition resulted in an increase of 456.6 KB. Curious, I did a digit by digit comparison of those last two figures, each almost half a MB in size. I found that my re-addition figure was exactly *one* byte greater than my deletion figure. Wow! Talk about consistency.

Three images had been deleted from page 11: The first was an 86.2 KB cartoon named m_out of work santa orders online.jpg. Its deletion had resulted in a decrease of 86.4 KB. As by now expected, its readdition resulted in an increase of 86.4 KB. The second was another cartoon, named m_online shopping sad santa.jpg. It measured 81.9 KB, and its deletion had resulted in a decrease of 82 KB. Likewise, its re-addition resulted in an increase of 82 KB. The third image on page 11 was a 34 KB file named PC-4line.png. Deleting it had given me a 67

KB decrease in PDF size. Now, adding its newly converted replacement, the 42.5 KB file PC-4line. *jpg*, gave me an increase of 42.7 KB,

There were no images on page 10. The first image on page 9 was a 61.4 KB cartoon named m_dear santa droid or iphone.jpg. Deleting it had given me a 61 KB decrease in PDF size. Re-adding it gave me a corresponding 61 KB increase. The second (and last) image on page 9 was a 31 KB file named PC-3line.png. Deleting it had given me a 63 KB decrease in PDF size. Now, adding its newly converted replacement, the 39.4 KB file PC-3line.jpg, gave me an increase of 39.7 KB. The sole file on page 8 was a 6.2 KB file named PC-SeeYa.png. Deleting it had given me an 11 KB decrease in PDF size. Now, adding its newly converted replacement, the 6.4 KB file PC-SeeYa.jpg, gave me an increase of 6.6 KB.

There were no images on pages 2 through 7, so that brings us to page 1. Its first image was another copy of the 7.5 KB file TINY_PC2.gif. Deleting it had yielded only a 26 byte decrease in PDF size.

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Niece of "Why So Big?" continued

(Because, as explained five paragraphs above, I hadn't actually deleted an image, just a link). Now, adding its recently converted replacement, the 15.1 KB file TINY PC2.*ipg*, gave me a similarly minuscule increase of 27 bytes. (Because, of course, I'd only added a link, not an image). The second image on page 1 was a 6.7 KB file named ACGNJ3R0.PNG. Deleting it had yielded a 40.5 KB decrease in PDF size. Now, adding its newly converted replacement, the 23.0 KB file ACGNJ3R0.JPG gave me an increase of 23.3 KB. The final image on page 1 was a 1,2 KB file named Santa92.png. Deleting it had given me a 6.5 KB decrease in PDF size. Now, adding its newly converted replacement, the 3.8 KB file Santa92.jpg, gave me an increase of 4.0 KB, for a final PDF size of 3.0 MB.

However, I wasn't quite finished with page 1 yet. Inside our masthead, I had to change "Volume 37, Number 12" to "Volume 37, Number 12R", and "December 2012" to "December 2012 (Replacement)". Then, I had to move the existing

text frames down a little bit, to make room for a new text frame directly under the masthead, containing the following message (in small red letters); "(The original version of this newsletter contained <u>serious</u> technical flaws. Please see *Purloined Letters* in our March 2013 issue for further details)". Finally, I was done.

Now, let's look at our various "final" sizes. Originally, Laptop/Scribus the Vista 1.4.1 combination produced a 4.8 MB PDF for December (and remember, it was *flawed*). When I loaded that exact same December work file (unedited in any way) into the Linux/Scribus 1.4.0 combination, and then immediately exported a PDF, it came out as a 3.7 MB file. Imagine that. A 1.1 MB decrease in size, just for not using Vista. (Let's call this the "Vista Penalty"). Now, after our deletion/addition operations, we've got a final PDF size of 3.0 MB. That's a further 0.7 MB decrease in PDF size, just for switching all of our images to the JPG format. (We'll call this the "JPG Reward").

So, that takes care of the replacement for our

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December 2012 issue. What about October and November? Well, here we hit problems. It looks like both of the most recent work files that I could find for those months are really "works in progress". It's likely that *neither* of them is the *final* work file for its issue. In October, one of the image frames just refused to link up to its image, even though I double and triple checked to make sure that the image was, in fact, where it was supposed to be. (I vaguely remember experiencing this kind of trouble before, and ultimately deleting the offending frame in a fit of frustration. Maybe this is actually that same frame). In November, there were areas of extra white space following two of the articles. These "text flow problems" could have been caused by line wrapping errors, or by some missing text. When things like this happen, I usually just fix them. I don't bother remembering them.

In their current condition, these two files are *not* suitable for producing replacement newsletters; but both *can* be used for performing size comparison experiments. (Which are, after all, the real purpose

of this article). Our October newsletter was an abbreviated issue, only 12 pages long; but it contained 36 images (18 GIF, 12 JPG, 6 PNG). Laptop/Scribus Originally. the Vista combination had produced a (flawed) 6.3 MB PDF for it. In my substitute for the October work file, I deleted that rebellious frame, inserted a new image frame, connected it to the proper image, and exported a new PDF; which measured 5.2 MB. (Another Vista Penalty of 1.1 MB. How nice). To save time, I only replaced the three biggest PNG images with their JPG counterparts: the large image on page 12 (usually page 16), the large image on page 11 (usually page 15), and the NL CD 12 image on page 10 (usually page 14). After that, I got a final PDF size of 4.55 MB, for a further decrease (JPG Reward) of 0.65 MB.

Remember that the *entire* JPG Reward for the December issue was 0.7 MB; and here we got most of that by changing only *three* files. How about that. Now, let's finish up by doing the November issue, which contained 44 images (19 GIF, 5 JPG, 20

Niece of "Why So Big?" continued

PNG). Originally, the Vista Laptop/Scribus 1.4.1 combination had produced a (*flawed*) 5.9 MB PDF file. When I opened my substitute for the November work file, I exported a new PDF right away. *Without* saving that work file, and <u>not</u> fixing those text flow problems either. I got a file which measured 4.9 MB. (A Vista Penalty of 1.0 MB this time. Close). Once again, I replaced only the three biggest PNG images with their JPG counterparts. (This time, they actually *were* located on pages 14, 15, and 16). As expected, I got a final PDF size of 4.25 MB, for a further decrease (JPG Reward) of 0.65 MB. (Since this issue contained 20 PNG files, I probably could have done even better if I'd converted more of them to JPG).

In conclusion, it now seems pretty obvious that the question "Why So Big?" has at least two answers: "I was so foolish as to do my work on a Vista

computer", and "I used some of the wrong image file formats". For the future, I plan to convert all of my PNG images to JPG (to save space); and all of my GIF images, as well. (Not so much to save space as to get rid of those misbegotten "Image is GIF" error messages). I really should do more TIF experiments, too. When I do, though, I'm fairly certain I'll get results similar to my PNG results. (Judging from the preliminary experiments that I did for Son of "Why So Big?", in our January 2013 issue). Hopefully, I'll never have to go anywhere near Vista again. I do, however, still have to make replacement newsletters for our October and November 2012 issues, and I should perform at least one more PDF file size comparison, this time between a Linux/Scribus 1.3.3.13 system and a Linux/Scribus 1.4.0 system; but for now, we're done. See you next month.

Where's the Technology?

Greg Skalka, President, Under the Computer Hood User Group, CA Newsletter: Drive Light (www.uchug.org) president (at) uchug.org

With all the political posturing going on this past election year, we should be used to promises that go unfulfilled. In the technical arena, we hear a lot about potential new advances; though often wait a long time to see the benefits ourselves. Sometimes the prognosticators are wildly optimistic or the development proves too difficult, and we never see (or at least haven't seen up to this point) the mass application of a great new product or technology (an example is the Segway personal transporter). I've bought a number of new computers recently, and have been a little surprised about some of the features currently available. There are a few features that I've been hearing about for a few years that still are not available on most new PCs. There are also features that I've never heard of that now appear to be standard. All in all, just like the 1980's Wendy's commercials that asked "Where's the beef?" I'm left asking "Where's the technology?"

The entertainment industry has also made its contributions to our unmet expectations for technology over the years. Remember the late 1960's television series "Lost in Space"? It was scripted to occur in 1997, yet we are still waiting for

interplanetary space travel, talking autonomous robots other innovations and portrayed commonplace. The movies "2001: A Space Odyssey" and "2010" portrayed many similar technological advances for times we have now passed. We do have the International Space Station, but it is not in the same league as the one in "2001". We never got the public videophone capability Dr. Heywood Floyd used to call back to Earth from the station in the film, though I guess it was really not much better than what we can do with Skype today. Some might argue it is just as well we don't yet have computers as sophisticated (especially in interaction with humans) as HAL 9000, though maybe IBM's Watson is getting close.

The reality of technological advancement in personal computers is that, though computers are not yet as sophisticated as HAL or Watson, they are pervasive. Only cell phones are more common now as tech tools in our society, and with smart phones the lines between phones and computers are blurring. There are often examples of advanced technology available to a few at great price, such as Watson in computing or the few wealthy individuals that have bought their

Where's the Technology? continued

way into space on a Russian rocket. These don't really portray the true advancement in technology available to the general public, so I've looked to the computers I've bought recently as a better representation of technology promised and fulfilled.

In the last two years, I've bought two new laptops and two new desktop computers for my wife and myself. These replace XP computers that were up to seven years old, and so represent a big step up in computer technology. The first replacement, and first Windows 7 machine in my house was an Acer Aspire X3950 mini desktop for my wife. Last year I bought myself a Lenovo IdeaCentre K330B desktop, and I bought a 15.6" Fujitsu Lifebook AH531 notebook for my wife. I liked the laptop so much I got a 14" Fujitsu Lifebook LH531 laptop for myself this year. All had Windows 7 and Intel i3 or i5 processors. These were not the fanciest nor the cheapest computers, but are ones I thought represented the best in value in the \$400 to \$600 price range. It is interesting to review the features available in these "typical" computers as compared to the latest technology has to offer.

In networking, we have come a long way. Once, everyone connected to the Internet through a phone modem. Now modems are absent from new computers, having been removed years ago. Wired Ethernet capability became the replacement. proceeding quickly from 10/100BASE-TX to Gigabit Ethernet, which is now the standard on all new computers. All four of my new computers include 10/100/1000 wired Ethernet capability, though I don't take advantage of the increased Gigabit speed, as my router and switches are all still only 10/100 capable. A survey of Fry's items online showed that for new networking gear, Gigabit has not become the standard that it has for computers and laptops. Most new switches available are 10/100/1000, but only about half the routers are.

The big push in networking improvement is now in wireless networking. Wireless computer users started out in 1999 with 11 Mbit/s 802.11b, and have proceeded up the alphabet with 802.11g (54 Mbit/s), n (up to 150 Mbit/s) and finally ac (up to 866

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Mbit/s). My two new laptops both are b/g/n capable, though once again my present router is limited to 802.11g. Here my home network is again behind the times, as most new routers only go up to n capability. Though Fry's does sell an 802.11ac router, I was not able to find any of their laptops with that capability. Even the thin Ultrabook laptops, which don't have a wired Ethernet RJ-45 connector, have yet to add 802.11ac to their features.

It is somewhat surprising to me that there has been such an emphasis on networking speed improvement recently, when for most people the benefits above 10/100 wired and 802.11g wireless are lost. Since few people have network hard drives, their network traffic consists exclusively of an Internet connection, which is often 10 Mbps or less. My Time Warner Cable plan presently gives me a measured 16 Mbps, but even if I bought the 50 Mbps "Ultimate" plan, my present network would not be a limiting factor.

The other typical computer interface is for peripheral devices. This used to consist of a serial port DB-9 connector, but computers lost those years ago. USB2

(Universal Serial Bus, version 2.0, 480 Mbps) became and still is the replacement peripheral interface standard, though now USB3 (5 Gbps) is finally appearing on some accessory devices and computers. USB3 adoption on computers presently appears to be related to price, with USB3 more likely on higher-end computers and laptops. None of my four new computers have USB3 capability, though Fry's showed it was available (often one port only, along with a couple USB2 ports) on some computers in the \$500 to \$1000 price range, and appeared to be on most all computers above \$1000. It surprised me to learn that of the two versions of Microsoft Surface tablet computer announced, the one based on the ARM processor had a USB2 port, with USB3 only available on the Windows 8, Intel processor version. For some reason (perhaps cost), the adoption of USB3 has not gone as fast as I would have thought.

Another interface I'd thought would become more popular and prevalent is eSATA, but for some reason it has not. It provides an external interface for the 3 or 6 Gbps SATA interface commonly used on hard

Where's the Technology? continued

drives. Though eSATA interface cards are available to add to computers, I've not seen any new machines come with this interface built in. Another very new high-speed serial interface that appears for now to be only available in iMacs is Intel's Thunderbolt; it promises 20 Gbps.

A surprise in the other direction is the addition of an HDMI (High-Definition Multimedia Interface) video output to almost every new computer. It is present on all of my new laptops and desktops. Since HDMI is available on all new HDTVs as an input, it has become for me the default way to hook up a laptop to my TV. When I want to show new photos to my family, the best way is to display them on our HDTV, using an HDMI connected laptop as the source. Since there are more and more devices (like set top boxes, DVD/Blu-ray disc players and HD video camcorders) already competing for the few TV HDMI inputs, I think HDMI switches, which allow multiple devices to use the TV ports, will become popular.

Another new video interface, one I'd never seen

before I bought my laptops, is Intel wireless Display, or WiDi. Though both my new laptops have it, I've yet to try it, as it requires a compatible TV or monitor, or an adapter. While the concept sounds good, I was not able to locate many adapters, and the one I did find on Fry's site was around \$100. While it looks like Intel has pushed adoption of this interface on the laptops using their processors, having a TV to wirelessly broadcast video to will be the problem for now.

Another wireless interface that now appears to be implemented on almost all new laptops is Bluetooth. Typical uses include interface with Bluetooth mice and keyboards. While Bluetooth is available on both of my new laptops, I so far have no peripheral devices to use with it.

Blu-ray optical drive technology has been available for over five years, but it has not displaced the standard DVD as the most popular optical disc format. I think cost is again the limiting factor in its acceptance, as Bluray capability appears more often in higher-cost computers. At the lower end of the

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capability spectrum are Blu-ray read-capable drives, which start to become available in mid to high-cost computers. Blu-ray writer drives are presently available only in the upper price tier of computers. None of my new computers came with any Blu-ray compatibility.

As time goes on, I'd expect costs to come down and

allow greater adoption of some of the new features that appear limited to high-end computers, such as USB3 and Blu-ray. Until then, all I can do is pay more, or ask "Where's the technology?"

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Behind the Scenes with Legacy

Bill Ellis, member of the Computer Users of Erie, PA (www.cuerie.com) cuerie1 (at) verizon.net

Have you ever wondered what the Legacy Family Tree program was doing for you as you keyed in your family data. I never did, until one day, as I sat staring at my family file in the family view screen and I noticed there was some data showing up that I hadn't entered or that some of the information that I had entered was in a place other then where I had put it. This got me to wondering what the Legacy program was doing behind to scenes and why. Let me run a few of these behind the scenes operations by you and see if they ring a bell. First off, I would

key in my family data, much like a robot, and not give any thought to what was really happening to that information. I mean, what the heck, I put the name here, and the date and place of birth goes on this line. Marriage info goes in this section. And let's not forget about that whole brood of kids. We'll key them into the spaces below the parent's name. We are entering this information routinely from documents that we gathered and we are more concerned with being accurate, than to be concerned about anything else. While we are doing our thing,

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Behind the Scenes with Legacy, continued

the Legacy program is doing its thing in the background. First of all, when we name our family file and tell Legacy to save it, Legacy turns the file into a database file. It doesn't look like a database file that we are familiar with, as we view our family file in a pedigree or family view, but that's what it is. As we know, a database file keeps everything in order and labeled correctly. The database file created by Legacy will end with an .fdb extension. (Family database?) As we continue to add people to our family file, Legacy creates another file as a companion to the database file. This companion file will have a .TC extension. (Table on contents?) This file holds the names of all the people that are entered into the Legacy program and we can view these names by going to the name list within Legacy. As we add more names to our family file, this name list file will continue to grow and be updated automatically. When we're done working with our family and shut the Legacy program down, we are asked if you want to make a backup copy of the family file. That is, of course, if you haven't changed

the defaults setting for closing down Legacy. When we select yes to make a backup, Legacy creates another file. This third file will have the same name as the other two files, but with a .ZIP extension. A ZIP file is a compacted file. Its size is smaller than the original file and easier to store or transport. These are the basic files that are created, behind the scenes, as we work with Legacy. As we work with Legacy's other features, Legacy will continue to created additional files to keep how we work simple and easy to understand and recreate.

To see more of Legacy's behind the scenes work, let's take a look at our family file using the family view screen. Hopefully, you'll be looking at your own family file or a close relative's file with parents listed above and children listed below. In other words, I'd like you to have a full screen of people as we navigate through this window. Let's look at the male on the left side. In Legacy, males are on the left and females on the right. Above the males name is the label "Husb". Looking at the female, you'll see "Wife" above her name. By default, Legacy labels

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all married couples as husband and wife. If they are not married, or if you have only a female on the right and no male on the left or vise versa, they are labeled "Male" and "Female", instead of husband and wife since there is no spouse. Above the man and woman you'll see the parents for each. For each parent that is deceased, you will see their birth and death year. If the person is still living you will only see their birth year. You will also see a plus sign at the end of their entries. This indicates that they have descendants. I know you're going to say this is rather obvious, since a child is listed below. That sign also indicates that there are more descendants than the one you are seeing. Legacy puts this information there, so your family file is easy to read, understand and easy to navigate. Below this man and woman will be the section for their marriage information such as date and place if they were married. This section will also indicate the status of their union such as, married, unmarried, divorced, separated and so on. In the children's section you'll see the birth year for each child. If a child is deceased, you'll also see the death

year. You will also see some strange symbols. These symbols indicate different events about the child. They indicate whether a child has children, whether a child is married and doesn't have children, whether a child never married and never had children, etc. These are just some of Legacy's behind the scenes operations. You've entered all the information, but Legacy will lump it together to make the family file easier to read and understood.

Looking at the very bottom of the family view screen, you'll see the time of day in the middle. Legacy gets this from your computer's internal clock. This is also an alarm clock. If you're like me and work on your family history until the wee hours, an alarms clock really comes in handy. Place your cursor on the time of day and left click. This will open a window so you can set the alarm. You can also type in a reminder message, so you know what you're supposed to do when the alarm goes off.

To the right of the time of day are four windows. The information in these windows is also created by Legacy behind the scenes. In the first three windows

Behind the Scenes with Legacy, continued

are numbers with an H, M, or W. prefix. These are (RIN) record identification numbers and an H, W or M prefix stands for Husband (Male), Wife (Female) and Marriage respectively. As each individual and/or marriage is entered into your family tree the record identification number is increased by one. For example, if you were the first male to be entered in your family file, your RIN would be H1 and if you are married, your marriage will be assigned the married record identification number of MRIN1. To some people, the H and W prefix for man and woman are considered a flaw in the program. I call it a quirk and no big deal. No matter what, I'm glad that Legacy keeps track of my individuals and their marriages chronologically, because I don't have to remember to do it. I file all of my documents for each individual or marriage by their RIN. I label the documents with the RIN, put them in acid free, clear sheet protectors and file them in several three ring binders. Previously, I had filed all of my documents in a file cabinet, using the same RIN filing system. It didn't take me long to figure out is it much easier to lug binders with me on my genealogical research excursions then a file cabinet. Needless to say, I've abandoned my first filing system.

The date at the far right is the last date that this couples and/or individual's records were modified. If you modified the record today, it will show today's date. Otherwise you'll see a previous date. Maybe you will to.

All of these appearances are being done, behind the scenes, by the Legacy program. It has been setup this way by default. You have the power to change any or all of these behind the scenes operations by going to the custom menu under options. Most will be found under the view tab. I have found the default settings to be AOK for my use and have left them that way. Maybe you will to.

I hope you enjoy what Legacy does for you, behind the scenes. Creating a family history is a daunting task and it's great to have a little help on our side.

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Making Your Computer Easier to Use

Nancy DeMarte, Regular Columnist (Office Talk), Sarasota PCUG, Florida Newsletter: Sarasota PC Monitor (www.spcug.org) ndemarte (at) Verizon.net

In these days when almost everyone is using a computer, there are many features of operating systems and software that can help users with physical limitations. Microsoft has enhanced its features in this area, both in Windows 7 and recent versions of Microsoft Office. This article gives an overview of these features and links to some helpful sites for people interested in making the tools work for them. In Windows 7, the accessibility tools are found in the Ease of Access Center (Start – Control Panel – Ease of Access Center). These tools are designed to help people who have problems with vision, hearing, and dexterity.

Low Vision and Blindness

For the person who finds the computer display hard to read, changing a few settings in the Ease of Access Center can make life easier. You can select a High Contrast theme which shows either white text on a black background or all bold black text on a white background for all text, including toolbars and

ribbons. This feature is especially useful for users with conditions like macular degeneration. The Magnifier tool enlarges the portion of the screen where the mouse pointer is located, a lifesaver when trying to read small text in a document or on a webpage. Like other tools, it can be pinned to the taskbar for easy access. Other settings let you remove unnecessary background images or animations, make the flashing cursor thicker and more visible when typing, and sharpen the appearance of window borders to make them easier to see.

A person who is blind can work with a Windows computer through a combination of the Narrator and Voice Recognition tools using speakers and a microphone. Narrator reads text aloud as it appears on the screen and describes things like error messages. The Voice Recognition tool, introduced in Word 2010, translates the user's speech into text on the screen. It does need initial setup, involving

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Making Your Computer Easier to Use, continued

training the tool to understand the user's vocal patterns. Another tool, Audio Description, gives oral narration of the action in videos.

Limited Dexterity

A number of tools are designed to assist the person with limited finger dexterity. Turning on the Mouse Keys lets you move the pointer on the screen using the arrow keys instead of the mouse. Sticky Keys let you press keystroke combinations, such as Ctrl+Alt+Del, one key at a time. Toggle Keys play an alert sound when you press the Caps Lock, Num Lock or Scroll Lock keys, saving you from unanticipated results like a sentence in all caps. Filter Keys can be set to ignore unintentional keystrokes, such as several in rapid succession or holding down a key for an unusually long time.

The Voice Recognition tool, besides assisting blind users, is also useful either for those with limited dexterity or inadequate typing skills. The on-screen keyboard lets the hunt-and-peck typist click letters on a keyboard displayed on the screen. For those who have trouble maneuvering a mouse, one

solution is to develop the habit of using keyboard shortcuts in place of mouse clicks. Searching the Internet will provide lists of standard keystroke shortcuts; you can also create your own. Windows' Ease of Access Center also has features that can help. One option lets you hover the mouse pointer over a window to open it, rather than clicking. Other settings for the mouse use can be found in the Control Panel - Mouse. Here you can change the speed of the mouse click and create a trail of pointer images behind the moving pointer to keep it in view. You can also change the shape and size of pointer icons.

Hearing Loss

Although computers are more visual than auditory, users with hearing loss need a few tools to assist them. In the Ease of Access Center, you can change alerts in many programs from sound to a text alert or a flash on the screen. Another setting displays text captions for spoken dialogue in multi media programs.

Accessibility Features in MS Office 2010

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Microsoft Word, Excel, and PowerPoint 2010 have new features to help make documents, spreadsheets, and presentations more accessible to those with limitations. One is the Accessibility Checker. This tool diagnoses a file for any areas that might make it difficult to view or use. The author of the file can review the list and make any changes he feels are needed. Another new tool is Mini Translator, which translates a word or phrase from another language into English when the mouse points to it. Clicking the Play button lets you hear the word or phrase pronounced. Another feature new to Office 2010 is the ability to add text descriptions to shapes and images for those who can't view them. Enlarging text in Word 2010 is easy with the zoom slider in the right bottom corner and a new full screen Reading View option which enlarges and sharpens document text. PowerPoint 2010 has added the capability to add closed captions to audio and video and embed them in a slide presentation.

Windows is compatible with many third party assistive software programs and devices. MS Office

2003 –2010 users can turn documents into Talking Books by downloading the "Save As Daisy" add-in. Go to http://resourcefulness and search for and download/install "Save As DAISY for Office (your version)." Then install a DAISY-compatible digital talking book reader, such as the free AMIS reader: www.DAISY.org/amis/download.

Versions are available for Office 2007/2010 and for Office 2003 with the Office 2007 compatibility pack installed. Other requirements are listed at the sourceforge.net website.

The number of options to increase accessibility to a computer can be overwhelming. This overview will make you aware of some of them, but only you can decide which ones you want to try. You can complete a short questionnaire in the Ease of Access Center to help with your decision. A few of these tools have a learning curve that can be greatly reduced by watching the video tutorials (some close-captioned) and reading support documents located at:

www.microsoft.com/enablewww.lvcg.org/products/office. Most can also be accessed directly from links in the

Making Your Computer Easier to Use, continued

Ease of Access Center. Fortunately, the support and setup tutorials for most of these tools are numerous and well done. More information can be found by searching www.microsoft.com/accessibility.

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Q&A - I'm thinking about getting a tablet computer

Bill Armstrong, Treasurer, Lehigh Valley Computer Group, PA Newsletter: LVCG Journal (www.lvcg.org) armstrong_bill (at) yahoo.com

Question: Dear Bill,

I am THINKING about getting one of these tablet computers, but have oodles of questions so I thought I'd start here (rather than bugging sales people until I know a bit more).

Are there any additional costs to use for internet access. (i.e. like a cell phone on a per minute plan)? Are "apps" part of the deal using a tablet (we are not into smart phones either at this point)? Is there a cost to use an App (other than cost to download if it was not free)...such as checking mail, weather, interactive games? Would I be able to get my e-mail? One I am looking at mentions Gmail...which I do not have? How do I get virus (etc.) protection? How secure using a wireless hot spot?

Thanks, Dave

Answer: Dear Dave,

I do not have a tablet, but I do have a smart phone (Android). Internet access through the cellular network requires a monthly access fee with a carrier, so yes, there is a continuing cost. That is why most of the tablets sold are Wi-Fi (not cellular). The Wi-Fi only tablets are less expensive to purchase initially (since they do not have the circuitry for cellular communications). My plan with Verizon to get internet on my phone costs an extra \$30 per month (over the cost of the cell phone plan for voice phone calls).

Apps are elective for you. I have some, but not a huge number. They give me weather info, stock market info, gasoline prices locally, movie listings, etc. Apps come in both free and paid versions. Once acquired, there is

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usually no additional cost to use them, forever. Most apps that require a fee up front are low cost, such as \$0.99 up to \$3 or maybe even \$5. Some, I guess, are more expensive, but I have never paid for the expensive ones.

If you have Wi-Fi at home, a tablet will work on the Wi-Fi network very nicely. That is how most people use them. When you go out around town, you will find many businesses offer free Wi-Fi. I used the free Wi-Fi at Panera Bread today in Whitehall. You should be able to get your email when connected to the Internet over Wi-Fi. I'll bet your email service has a method of retrieving your email over the web.

Virus protection is available for the operating systems (OS) that tablets run. I have such a program for my smart phone, for which I paid. It's a good idea to have one. The app store for your tablet's OS will offer many. Just search for anti-virus. Wireless hotspots (public Wi-Fi) are not secure. Period. That being said, I use them all the time. I just don't do any banking or money or credit card transactions. I wait until I am home, on my password protected Wi-Fi system.

Be sure to view a few screen sizes, to see what is good for

you. The iPad is about 10.1 inches (measured diagonally), and many consider that size to be ideal for them. Other popular sizes are 7.7 and 7.0 inches, and 5 inches. View a website or two to see how they look.

My smart phone is large for a phone, about 4.65 inches. It's small but usable for viewing a website. I have to use a two-finger spreading action on the screen to enlarge the view, so I can read it easily. If using the Android OS, I recommend a tablet that uses Android 4.0 or later (called Ice Cream Sandwich or ICS). This OS makes scrolling and making the view larger/smaller very easy and intuitive and smooth.

I use my phone for getting email, viewing websites, checking the weather, checking my calendar (where I put all my appointments and "to do" list), checking facts on Wikipedia, getting news, reading tech articles, getting stock market info, etc.

Bill

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SIG News

LUNICS (Linux/Unix)

Andreas Meyer (lunics@acgnj.org)

http://www.acgnj.org/groups/lunics.html

LUNICS is a group for those who share an interest in Unix and similar operating systems. While we do quite a bit with Linux, we've also been known to discuss Solaris and BSD as well. Recent meetings have followed a Random Access format. See our web page for further information. (We meet on the first Monday of each month, at 8:00 PM).

Main Meeting

Evan Williams (president@acgnj.org) http://www.acgnj.org/groups/mainmeet.html

We meet on the first Friday of the month, at 8:00 PM. Each December, this meeting includes our Annual Business Meeting and Officer Elections. *No* meetings in July or August.

Layman's Forum

Matt Skoda (som359@aol.com) http://www.acgnj.org/groups/laymans.html

This SIG discusses issues of interest to novice users or those planning to get started in computing. Watch our Web page for updates and announcements. We meet at the same time as the Hardware Workshop. (On the second Monday of the month, at 8:00 PM). *No* meetings in July and August.

Hardware Workshop

Mike Reagan (hardware@acgnj.org)

This group is dedicated to repairing, refurbishing and/or recycling older computers. Ten people attended the first meeting, so there is still a market for this type of event. Although we looked at some of the older equipment stored in he back room, most of our time was spent in talking about ast experiences and planning for the future. Hopefully, we can establish a viable long-term schedule of projects, and keep the interest of those who attended this inaugural meeting. If you have a hardware problem, bring it in and we can all help fix or demolish it. (No guarantees either way.) We meet at the same time as the Layman's Forum. (On the second Monday of each month, at 8:00 PM).

Java

Mike Redlich (mike@redlich.net) http://www.redlich.net/javasig/javasig.html

This SIG covers beginner, intermediate, and advanced level Java programming. Primary focus is on developing useful/practical applets and applications. (We meet on the second Tuesday of each month, at 7:30 PM).

Mobile Devices

Brenda Bell (mobdevsig@acgnj.org)

The Mobile Devices SIG focuses largely on currentgeneration cellphones and smart phones (such as Blackberry, Android, iPhone) which bridge the gap between basic cell phones and traditional computers, and how they can help you manage and organize your life. Our membership ranges from those who have recently acquired their first, basic cellphone to those who develop applications for today's modern smart phones, iPods, and ultra-portable computers. While we expect to spend much of our time investigating the built-in features and specialized applications available to modern smart phones, if you bring your basic (or multimedia) cell phone, iPod, or other mobile device with questions on how to use it, where to find applications, or what features they have, we are always happy to help! Meet and greet and plan where this event goes. Bring all your ideas, PDAs, fancy phones, etc. (We meet on the second Wednesday of alternate months (we get the even ones), at 7:30PM). \square

WebDev

Evan Williams (webdev@acgnj.org)

This SIG is an open forum for all Website Development techniques and technologies, to encourage study and development of web sites of all kinds. All languages will be considered and examined. The current project is a CMS for the club. Anyone interested in starting a new project, come to the meeting and announce/explain. Provide as much detail as possible. WebDev should be an all-encompasing development and examination forum for all issues, applications, OS, languages and systems one can use to build Websites. We currently

have two web development language SIGs: .NET and Java; but other languages and OS need to be investigated, examined and tested; Windows, Linux, UNIX, DEC, Vax, HP etc. Intel-PC, Motorola - MAC etc. (We meet on the second Wednesday of alternate months (we get the odd ones), at 7:30 PM).

Investment Software

Jim Cooper (jim@thecoopers.org)

http://www.acgnj.org/groups/sig_investment.html

The Investment SIG continues with presentations on how to use analysis programs TC2000 and TCNet. Large charts are presented on our pull down screen and illustrate the application of computer scans and formulas to find stocks for profitable investments. Technical analysis determines buy points, sell points and projected moves. Technical analysis can also be used on fundamentals such as earnings, sales growth, etc. We're no longer focusing on just Telechart. If you are using (or interested in) Tradestation, eSignal, VectorVest, or just in learning how to select and use charting and technical analysis, come join us!! (We meet on the second Thursday of the month, at 8 PM).

NJ Gamers

Gregg McCarthy (greggmajestic@gmail.com)

http://www.NJGamers.com

www.lanparty.com

The Friday Night Frag starts at 6:00 PM on the second Friday of each month, and keeps going until 12 Noon on Saturday - 18 hours for 5 bucks!

BYOC - Bring your own computer.

BYOF - Bring your own food.

And if you don't like sitting on metal folding chairs...

BYO chair!

Web Browser (Formerly Firefox)

David McRitchie (firefox@acgnj.org).

This SIG is an open forum for all Firefox and Mozilla techniques and technologies, to encourage study and development of web sites of all kinds. All browsers will be considered and examined. All members and guests are invited to check out the design concepts and voice their opinion. (We meet on the third Monday of each month, at 7:30 PM).

C/C++ Programming

Bruce Arnold (barnold@ieee.org) http://acgnj.barnold.us/index.html

This is a forum for discussion of programming in general, beginning and intermediate level C, C++, C-Win programming, hardware, algorithms, and operating systems. We demonstrate real programming in a non-intimidating way, presenting complete code for working programs in 3-5 sheets of paper. (We meet on the third Tuesday of each month, at 7:30 PM). *No* meetings in July or August.

Window Pains

John Raff (jraff@comcast.net) http://www.acgnj.org/groups/winpains.html

Intended to provide members with Windows oriented discussions, Microsoft and Linux style. Directed to more technological level of attendee, but newbies are welcomed. (We meet on the third Friday of the month at 8:00 PM). *No* meetings in July or August.

37th Anniversary Newsletter CD Now On Sale



Beta .12 Release.

\$8.00, including postage.

(\$7.00 if you pick up a copy at a meeting).

Get yours today!

Back Issues Still Needed

Our collection remains incomplete. Below is a list of missing newsletters. Anyone who lends us one of these (or supplies a good clear copy) will receive the next CD as our thanks.

1975: #2 and #3 (dates uncertain).

1976: January.

1984: August.

1985: June, July, August, September.

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Guru Corner

If you need help with any of the technologies listed below, you can call on the person listed. Please be considerate and call before 10 PM.

Software			
HTML	Mike Redlich	908-246-0410	
	Jo-Anne Head	908-769-7385	
ColdFusion	Jo-Anne Head	908-769-7385	
CSS	Frank Warren	908-756-1681	
	Jo-Anne Head	908-769-7385	
Java	Mike Redlich	908-246-0410	
C++	Bruce Arnold	908-735-7898	
	Mike Redlich	908-246-0410	
ASP	Mike Redlich	908-246-0410	
Perl	John Raff	973-560-9070	
	Frank Warren	908-756-1681	
XML	Mike Redlich	908-246-0410	
Genealogy	Frank Warren	908-756-1681	
Home Automation	Frank Warren	908-756-1681	
	Operating Systems		
Windows 3.1	Ted Martin	732-636-1942	

Discount Computer Magazine Price List As described by the DealsGuy

	1 yr	2 y	r 3 yr
Computer Games	\$10.95	20.95	29.95
Computer Gaming World	14.95	28.95	41.95
Computer Shopper1	16.97	32.95	47.95
Dr. Dobbs Journal	15.95	30.95	
Mac Addict	10.97		
Mac Home Journal	15.97	29.97	
Mac World	12.95		
Maximum PC	9.95	18.95	27.95
Microsoft System Journal	21.95	39.95	
PC Gamer	12.95		
PC Magazine (22/44/66 Issues)	25.97	48.95	68.95
PC World	16.95		
Wired	6.00	12.00	17.00

These prices are for new subscriptions and renewals. All orders must be accompanied by a check, cash or Money Order. Make payable to Herb Goodman, and mail to:

Herb Goodman, 8295 Sunlake Drive, Boca Raton, FL 33496

Telephone: 561-488-4465, e-mail: hgoodman@prodigy.net

Please allow 10 to 12 weeks for your magazines to start. For renewals you must supply an address label from your present subscription to insure the correct start of your renewal. As an extra service I will mail a renewal notice about 4 months prior to their expiration date. I carry more than 300 titles at excellent prices — email for prices.

ACGNJ MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Sign up online at www.acgnj.org/membershipApplication.html and pay dues with PayPal.

		Dues			
	US/CANADA			STUDENT	SENIOR CITIZEN (Over 65)
1 Year	\$25			\$20	\$20
2 Years	\$40				
3 Years	\$55				\$45
	olication and your che R COMPUTER GROU	eck to: JP OF NEW JERSEY, INC., I	P.0. BOX 135,	SCOTCH P	LAINS, NJ 0707
	COMPUTER GROU	JP OF NEW JERSEY, INC.,	P.0. BOX 135,		LAINS, NJ 0707
	COMPUTER GROU	JP OF NEW JERSEY, INC.,		O .	LAINS, NJ 0707
AMATEUR	COMPUTER GROU	JP OF NEW JERSEY, INC., I		еР	estro es

Other Local Computer Groups			
Princeton Macintosh User Group: 7:15 pm 2nd Tuesday, Jadwin Hall, A-10, Washington Rd, Princeton, (609) 252-1163, www.pmug-nj.org	Linux Users Group in Princeton: 7 pm, 2nd Wednesday, Lawrence Branch Mercer Library, Rt#1 & Darrah Lane, Lawrence NJ http://www.lugip.org	New York PC: 3rd Thurs, 7 pm, PS 41, 116 W 11th St. For info call hotline, (212) 533-NYPC, http://www.nypc.org	
Computer Education Society of Philadelphia: Meetings & Workshops at Jem Electronics, 6622 Castor Ave, Philadelphia PA. www.cesop.org/	Brookdale Computer Users Group: 7 pm, 3rd Friday, Brookdale Community College, Bldg MAS Rm 100, Lincroft NJ. (732)-739-9633. www.bcug.com	NJ Macintosh User Group: 8 pm, 3rd Tuesday, Allwood Branch Library, Lyall Rd, Clifton NJ. (201) 893-5274 http://www.njmug.org.	
PC User Group of So. Jersey: 2nd Mon., 7 pm, Trinity Presb. Church, 499 Rt 70 E, Cherry Hill, NJ. L. Horn, (856) 983-5360	Hunterdon Computer Club: 8:30 am, 3rd Sat, Hunterdon Medical Center, Rt 31, Flemington NJ. www.hunterdoncomputerclub.org, (908) 995-4042.	NY Amateur Computer Group: 2nd Thurs, 7 pm, Rm 806 Silver Bldg, NYU, 32 Waverly Pl, NYC. http://www.nyacc.org	
Morris Micro Computer Club: 7 pm 2nd Thurs., Morris County Library, Hanover Ave, Morristown NJ, (973) 267-0871. http://www.morrismicro.com	Central Jersey Computer Club: 8 pm, 4th Friday, Rm 74, Armstrong Hall, College of NJ. Rich Williams, (609) 466-0909.	NJ PC User Group: 2nd Thurs, Monroe Rm at Wyckoff Public Library, 7 pm. Maureen Shannon, (201) 853-7432, www.njpcug.org	
Philadelphia Area Computer Society: 3rd Sat, 12 noon Main Meeting, groups 8 am-3 pm. Upper Moreland Middle School, Hatboro PA. (215) 764-6338. www.pacsnet.org	NJ Computer Club: 6:15 pm, 2nd Wednesday except Jul & Aug, North Branch Reformed Church, 203 Rt 28, Bridgewater NJ. http://www.njcc.org	Princeton PC Users Group: 2nd Monday, Lawrenceville Library, Alt Rt 1 & Darrah Lane, Lawrenceville, Paul Kurivchack (908) 218-0778, http://www.ppcug-nj.org	

Classified

FREE TO MEMBERS. Use our classified ads to sell off your surplus computer stuff. Send copy to Classified, ACGNJ NEWS, P.O. Box 135, Scotch Plains NJ 07076 or e-mail to the editor, bdegroot@ptd.net. Classified ads are free to members, one per issue. Non-members pay \$10. Send check payable to ACGNJ Inc. with copy. Reasonable length, please.

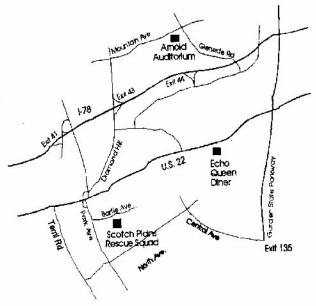
Radio and TV Programs

Computer Radio Show, WBAI 99.5 FM, NY, Wed. 8-9 p.m.

Review, Software Learning Channel, Saturday 10-10:30 p.m.

On Computers, WCTC 1450 AM, New Brunswick, Sunday 1-4 p.m. To ask questions call (800) 677-0874.

PC Talk, Sunday from 8 p.m. to The Association of 10 p.m., 1210 AM Philadelphia.



Member of Personal Computer User Groups 1-800-876-WPEN http://www.apcug.net

Directions to Meetings at Scotch Plains Rescue Squad, 1916 Bartle Ave., Scotch Plains NJ

From New York City or Northern New Jersey

Take Route 1&9 or the Garden State Parkway to US 22 Westbound.

From Southern New Jersey

Take Parkway north to Exit 135 (Clark). Stay on left of ramp, follow circle under Parkway. Bear right to Central Avenue; follow to Westfield and under RR overpass. Left at light to North Avenue; follow to light in Fanwood. Right on Martine (which becomes Park Ave). Right on Bartle Ave in middle of shopping district.Scotch Plains Rescue Squad (2-story brick) is located on the right. Do not park in the row next to the building - you'll be towed.

From I-78 (either direction)

Take exit 41 (Scotch Plains); follow signs to US 22. Turn right at light at bottom of hill and use overpass to cross Rt. 22. Follow US 22 Westbound directions.

From US 22 Westbound

Exit at Park Avenue, Scotch Plains after McDonalds on the right, diagonally opposite Scotchwood Diner on the left, immediately before the overpass. After exiting, turn left at the light and use overpass to cross US 22. Bear right at bottom of ramp to continue south on Park Avenue. Turn left at the second light (a staggered intersection). Scotch Plains Rescue Squad (2-story brick) is on the right. Do not park in the row next to the building — you'll be towed. We meet on the second floor, entering by the door at the right front of the building.

From Western New Jersey

Take US 22 Eastbound to the Park Avenue exit. The exit is about a mile past Terrill Road and immediately past the overpass. Exit onto Park Avenue South and follow the directions above to the Rescue Squad building.